

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Robert Stephen MULES  
Title: FILTER ASSEMBLY WITH DRAIN  
OUTLET  
Appl. No.: Unassigned  
Filing Date: 03/27/2002  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

**In the Claims:**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.21, please substitute for claims 3, 5, 7, 10 and 11, the following rewritten version of the same claims, as amended. The changes are show explicitly in the attached "Marked-up Version of Amended Claims."

3. (Once Amended) A fluid filter assembly according to claim 1, wherein the housing comprises a base and a removable cap fitted together, the drain outlet being formed in the base.

5. (Once Amended) A fluid assembly according to claim 3, wherein the support is retained on the removable cap.